S
333.72
53t

MAR 14 1968
STATE DOCUMENTS

Treasure Acres

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

O. M. Ueland, Editor, Montana College of Mineral Science & Technology, Butte, Montana
JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1968

PETER V. JACKSON, MASWCD PRESIDENT SEZ:

I have just returned from our National Convention at Dallas, Texas. The first thing I would like to say is Thank You to all the folks who made the trip and worked so hard to get our resolutions passed. We were very successful, in spite of not getting everything completed; but all in all, having gotten over 80% of the resolutions passed and strengthening relationships with our fellow states, made the time well spent.

During the last few months a rather peculiar situation has been developing. I have been told by good authority that there are several Conservancy District bills being written for our next Legislature. If this is true, I find the whole situation both humorous and irritating.

Conservation is far too important to be treated so lightly. It is a very serious duty that has been given to us. The development and protection of our natural resources are certainly going to be given the due respect that conservation deserves.

GOVERNOR BABCOCK APPOINTS DEAN A. HANSON TO A NEW FOUR YEAR TERM ON THE STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Governor Babcock announced the appointment of Dean A. Hanson of Gildford to a new four year term on the State Soil Conservation Committee.

Hanson is a grain and livestock farmer and is a supervisor of the Hill County Soil and Water Conservation District. He has been particularly active in promoting watershed projects in the state and the Beaver Creek project near Havre, which includes flood control, recreation, and irrigation benefits is about to be realized.

Hanson is currently Vice-Chairman of the State Soil Conservation Committee. Other Governor appointees are William F. D'Ewart, Wilsall, Chairman; John Schroeder, LoLo; and Oscar B. Hippe, Froid. Ex-officio members are the Director of Extension Service, Torlief Aasheim; Director of Experiment Station, Joe Asleson; and Commissioner of Agriculture, Lowell Purdy. Ave Linford, State Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service, serves as an advisory member.

President Sez, Continued

This coming year we are going to try to revamp our basic District Law in just a few places so that we will be able to do the work of conservation as it should and must be done in a carefully and completely planned procedure that will produce good steady progress. Don't take me wrong; I'm not saying we aren't concerned or won't hurry. On the contrary, we have to move just as fast as it is humanly possible, but not to sacrifice the quality of the work necessary to keep the people properly fed and clothed today, tomorrow, and yes, from now on. At least I hope the world isn't going to end in the year 2000 or 2030.

So please think clearly before you make any decisions when you are approached by politicians who are trying to make political hay by using conservation as their hue and cry. It seems that conservation is being classed alont with freedom and Motherhood, an easy way to get notoriety and votes.

What I am trying to say is that we certainly don't want to get involved in some political struggle and lose sight of the true objective and responsibility that we are charged with. It is far more sensible to stick to our own standards that are tried and found true. All we need is a few changes, and we can do the job right.

Maybe it won't look so glamorous, but when the limelight dims and the newness wears off, we will still be doing the work and proud of having stayed above petty nonsense by using mature wisdom.

Pete

* * * * * * * * * * *

" I put it in the closet last winter — did you find it, dear?"

DATES TO REMEMBER

State Soil Conservation Committee Meeting *Highway Commission Bldg.* *Conference Room - Helena*	*March 28, 29*
Montana Conservation Council Annual Meeting *Jorgenson's - Helena*	*April 19, 20*
Montana Youth Conference on Natural Beauty and Conservation *DeMolay Bldg. - Great Falls*	*April 27, 28*
Montana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts *Director's Meeting - Lewistown*	*June 3, 4*
Shelterbelt Tour through Hill, Liberty, Chouteau, and Cascade Counties	*June 6,7,8*
Northern Great Plains Area Meeting *Bismarck, North Dakota*	*June 9,10, 11*
American Society of Range Management Annual Meeting *Alberta, Canada*	*July 25, 26 and 27*
Montana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts *Annual Meeting* *LaLonde Hotel, Sidney*	*October 30, 31 & November 1*

* * * * * * * * * * *

A FEW DO's AND DON'Ts FOR YOUR ANNUAL MEETING

Plan your Annual Meeting well in advance-- details are time consuming but necessary.
Announce the meeting several times through all channels of communication.
Nomintaions should be handled quickly, but in a formal manner.
Introduce visiting dignitaries and others by standing. Ask for a few remarks.
Close meeting at scheduled time.

And above all--DON'T PANIC. These details mentioned above fit into a logical order and when combined with the "right" program, will cause the audience to WANT TO HEAR MORE.

* * *

A specialist is a doctor who has trained his patients to be ill during office hours.

* * *

FORESTRY ASSISTANCE TO CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

by

C. E. Wright, Cooperative Forest Management Supervisor, State Forester's Office

Wise and productive use of Montana's resources and the protection of these resources are jobs of Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the State. Soil and Water Conservation Districts are not alone in their efforts to wisely use and protect these resources. Among the various federal and state agencies assigned responsibility for resource management is the Office of Montana State Forester.

Assistance from the State Forester's Office is available to each Soil and Water Conservation District in Montana. The Districts in Montana and the Office of State Forester have realized that they share the common objectives of helping to insure that each acre of land is used within the limits of its capabilities and that each acre is treated in accordance with its need for protection and improvement. The State Forester and the Montana Soil and Water Conservation Districts also recognize the interrelationships of forestland treatment to the basic resources of soil and water.

To establish cooperation and assistance on an enduring basis in order to obtain their mutual objectives, all Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Montana have entered into formal Memorandums of Understanding with the Office of State Forester. The Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Montana and the State Forester reciprocally assist each other in overcoming many types of resource problems dealing with the management of woodlands and trees.

At the request of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Office of State Forester has supplied information to Districts and to individuals within Districts pertaining to:

1. Forest fire protection, insect, disease, wind and water erosion, and management needs of their area.

2. Formulate plans for landowners for establishing needed fire protection, programs for timber management, timber stand improvement, and tree planting.

3. Help in actually setting up local fire suppression organizations.

4. Provide technical on-the-ground assistance to forestland owners, and wood processors.

5. Provide trees at reasonable cost from the State Forest Nursery of proper species, age class, and size best suited for forest plantings, windbreaks, and shelterbelts in Montana.

6. Forest Product Utilization service to forestland owners and wood processors.

Our past accomplishments have proved that Districts and the State Forester's Office can work effectively to overcome problems in the management of our vast forest resources. However, we have a long way to go to achieve full utilization.

Assistance is now available through District State Forest Offices at Kalispell, Missoula, and Helena. The State Office is located in Missoula at 2705 Spurgin Road.

BLAINE COUNTY SWCD - Herb DeVries reported on educational matter such as revision of the public school conservation guide which was prepared in 1960. About 1,000 copies of this book were prepared and the supply has been used up. He suggested that supervisors look at the booklet and make any suggestions or additions they feel would be valuable or necessary.

DeVries also reported on proposed school children Conservation Tours such as have been held in the past. He asked for suggestions and ideas as to how these tours might be carried out to the greatest extent for Conservation Education. He asked that the supervisors think about these tours and offer suggestions.

BROADWATER SWCD - Russell opened a discussion on the weed control and suggested having a meeting with various interested groups to set up a program. A date of March 12 was decided upon and Russell will make the arrangements.

The 4-H Fair Displays were discussed and the District decided to pay the awards of $3.00, 2.00 and $1.00 in the 3 categories.

EASTERN SANDERS COUNTY SWCD AND GREEN MOUNTAIN SWCD - Congressman Arnold Olsen attended a joint meeting of Supervisors February 12 at Plains. Supervisors explained the critical need for technical help to keep up with the growing demands of land occupiers to apply conservation practices. The noxious weed problem in Sanders County and other areas of Montana was also brought to Mr. Olsen's attention as well as several impediments to the water development program.

GARFIELD COUNTY SWCD - Coulter reviewed correspondence from Francis Siddoway, Director of the Soil and Water Research Center, Sidney, on setting up the procedure to be used in determining maximum water use development of watersheds in the county.

Allen Barnes presented information from the State ASCS Committee in regard to further water development on the Smoky Butte Drainages. It was determined small pits and stock dams could be developed.

RUBY VALLEY SWCD - The State meeting of District Supervisors was discussed. Reports to the supervisors was made by Lowell Gilman and H. L. Smith on the committees they attended which was the Research and the Water Resources and Public Lands Committee. The resolutions of these committees were read and those posted noted.

UPPER MUSSELSHELL SWCD - First order of business was highway signs received since the last meeting. It was decided to place the new signs on the eastern and western borders of the District. Both signs to be placed on No. 12 Highway. Paul to check size of signs with frames.

WIBAUX SWCD - A letter pertaining to the Watershed Program Information from A. B. Linford was read. This letter indicated where possible construction of watershed could be initiated in Eastern Montana.

Wayne Marcus, Mayor of Wibaux, presented the petitions, signed by the necessary 10 land occupiers of the city of Wibaux, to allow the city to become a part of the Wibaux Soil and Water Conservation District. The next step is for the local District to establish a date and arrange for a hearing for the city and district to take part in.

STILLWATER SWCD GOALS (Taken from the Stillwater SWCDs Annual Report for 1967)

"The use of each acre according to its capabilities, and the treatment of each acre according to its needs."

It is not the intention of your Soil and Water Conservation District to give something for nothing. Your Supervisors hope to instill in the minds of all landowners and operators that it is their individual responsibility to get conservation measures (both annual and permanent) applied to the land as rapidly as possible.

"I'm going to kindergarten, of course. Where else would a five-year-old be going?"

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MEETS WITH DISTRICT BOARDS

During the month of February, O. M. Ueland, Executive Secretary of the State Soil Conservation Committee, met with Soil & Water Conservation District Boards of Supervisors in the Western Montana and Triangle Areas. Attendance was good at all but a couple of meetings. Goal discussions were had concerning district financing, resource conservation planning and development, and on district problems. Area Directors of the MASWCD discussed legislation of concern to districts.

Comments from supervisors included such as: "Range and pasture offers biggest potential for development in Montana; looks like we need a full time Public Relations man; noxious weeds are serious; farmers and ranchers cannot live by themselves; there is a need to plan much more effectively than in the past; need to get involved with urban communities; 20% of population in Montana is on the farm and ranch; planning is retrospective and anticipatory; need to revive Arbor Day to plant trees; hold conservation tours; flying tours are a good way to observe conservation; there is always more conservation to be applied, never get caught up; education and financing is needed; some say we are brainwashed by the Soil Conservation Service and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service; think sometimes city people are more informed than rural people; we need to be more alert to the problems of the district; farmers are indifferent to what we are trying to do, call meetings, very few farmers show; districts should express public opinion on conservation; drives of each agency sometimes box in cooperation; districts will have to supplement SCS funds; should inform Legislators and Congress of conservation needs; Conservation Charley needs pushing; good to get supervisors acquainted with neighboring district supervisors; we will have to set priorities and choose the practices to work on with what money and help is available; farmers wonder what Soil and Water Conservation District Boards are all about!"

What hardships the pioneers endured! Imagine pushing westward, day after day, without sunglasses!

MONTANA YOUTH CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION

Several Montana Soil and Water Conservation Districts have indicated they will sponsor sending youth from their localities to the Montana Youth Conference on Conservation, which will be held April 27-28, 1968 at the DeMolay Youth Center in Great Falls.

This conference is a challenge to young people to set for themselves conservation goals which will ensure optimum utilization of resources and better living; to identify what needs to be done to improve our natural environment; and to develop a philosophy of living in harmony with our land and its resources.

Governor Babcock will address the opening session.

* * * * * * * *

MULTIPLE-COUNTY PLANNING URGED

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture told a Rural Areas Development Conference in Bozeman the Federal Government will push for new town-and-country development legislation. He said Multiple-County Planning will provide for a "melting together of town and country". Secretary Baker has established Technical Action Panels (TAP) in the Department of Agriculture to get better communication and coordination between agencies and to be on tap (not on top) for assistance to local organizations and groups.

* * * * * * * *

NACD PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE

Any Soil and Water Conservation District which desires a copy of the Proocedings of the Twenty-Second Annual Convention may obtain one by writing to the NACD Service Department, Box 855, League City, Texas 77573 before April 15.

Look out the window from the breakfast table and you see the bird after the worm, the cat after the bird, and the dog after the cat. This will give you a little better understanding of the morning's news.

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

There is urgent need for strong leadership in conservation districts, in farm organizations and rural community chambers of commerce, among conservationists, tradesmen, bankers, and newsmen, to identify the array of new issues now facing the countryside and to devise constructive programs for dealing with them.

The key to the new approach: 1) Involving more people in resource work; 2) Extending district services to additional people; 3) Placing more emphasis on broad-based resource planning; and 4) At the same time continuing the original purpose of the district as an effective local-action organization to get as much total conservation on the land as fast as possible.

* * * * * * * * * * *

TOWN OF DRUMMOND OFFICIALLY BECOMES A PART OF THE GRANITE SWCD

The town of Drummond, Montana has officially become a part of the Granite Soil and Water Conservation District. An election was held on this proposition by mail and was concluded on February 20, 1968. Those voting for the proposition were 92; only three voted against it.

The Big Sandy Soil and Water Conservation District is currently conducting an election by mail as to whether the town of Big Sandy should be included in the Big Sandy Soil and Water Conservation District.

Hearings will be held shortly by the State Soil Conservation Committee as to whether a referendum should take place for the addition of the towns of Fort Benton and Geraldine to the Chouteau County Soil and Water Conservation District.

* * * * * * * * * * *

Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
(Return postage guaranteed)

Non-Profit Org.
U.S.Postage PD.
Permit No.171
Butte, Montana

333.72
S3t

APR 26 1968
STATE DOCUMENTS

Treasure Acres

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

O. M. Ueland, Editor, Montana Tech, Butte, Montana

MARCH - APRIL, 1968

PETER V. JACKSON, MASWCD PRESIDENT SEZ:

Since the last edition of Treasure Acres, I have had the opportunity to read the convention agendas of several organizations.

It was pleasing to see that they are all considering Public Lands, Recreation, and Natural Resources. Perhaps at last we are looking at the whole broad scope of our natural resources in Montana, both renewable and nonrenewable.

I well realize it is much easier and glamorous to take one problem - for example water - and give it great publicity. But sincere common sense demands that we consider all of the aspects of our natural resources to be able to make real progress. To be able to make real progress, a uniform plan must be followed in developing each resource so that one does not hold up the progress of another. For example, it makes no sense to build a reservoir unless the range lands are well protected against erosion; likewise farmland without proper wind and water erosion

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The State Soil Conservation Committee had a very busy meeting, March 28th and 29th. To start things off, a delegation presented an application for a proposed watershed flood prevention project for the City of Browning. Mayor Edward J. Aubert and George Hinkel, City-County Planning Director, spoke on behalf of the project.

Watershed applications were also received from the Missoula County SWCD for Pattee Creek and Miller Creek. The South Missoula residential area occupies much of the flood plain of Pattee Creek, for which relief is being sought.

Also presented to the State Soil Conservation Committee for approval were Resource Conservation and Development applications for the Beartooth area, comprising Carbon and Stillwater Counties, and the Headwaters Area, comprising all of Deer Lodge, Silver Bow, and Jefferson Counties and parts of Powell and Madison. Bill Langford, William Skorupa, and Otto Yedlicka, County Commissioner, led a delegation in behalf of the Beartooth application. This group has worked on the proposal for several years and are well organized and enthusiastic about proceeding with needed new resource developments. Dick Setterstrom, Supervisor of the Mile High District, and Don Gates, County Commissioner from Deer Lodge County, Sandy Rverson, County Commissioner from Powell County, appeared in behalf of the Headwaters application.

The SSCC reorganized by re-electing William D'Ewart, Wilsall, as Chairman and Dean Hanson of Gildford, Vice-Chairman. O. M. Ueland of Silver Bow was retained as Secretary.

President Sez, Continued

controls can easily ruin a good irrigation development by literally filling the basin with silt during one bad storm. This has actually happened in our own State. Shouldn't we profit by our mistakes?

It will take a lot of just plain stubborness and guts to keep a level-headed course of action in our plan to keep good sensible development moving. This we can do and easily, as long as the glamour doesn't get in our eyes.

I'm very happy to report that we have taken action on every resolution passed at our annual convention. This has been quite a job, but an interesting and productive one. I only wish that we could say that we were successful on each one, but this isn't the case; however, we are continuing to work on the stubborn ones. In case you are unaware of the outcome of your favorite resolution, you may write Wayne Gibson, our Secretary, or myself; and we will fill you in on the details.

One final thing, as you remember, we are trying hard to develop our Public Relations Program. When your District completes a project that you are especially proud of, get a story in the papers and magazines. We have done far too many important projects and had them go unnoticed. It may come as a surprise to you, but there are many prominent people in this State that are completely unaware of the tremendous volume of work turned out by the Districts every year.

I am sure that by now you have heard of the State Association group that went to Washington, D. C. I have intentionally left this out of my report because the other members of our group will discuss the many things accomplished. However, I would like to make one comment: The group that I went with was a credit to your Association. Their capacity for work seemed endless, and it was my pleasure and privilege to have had the chance to accompany them.

* * * * * * * * * * *

If you can spend a few minutes each day using tonic to save your hair, can't you spend a few minutes each year at the polls to save your scalp?

DATES TO REMEMBER

MASWCD Director's Meeting Yogo Inn, Lewistown	June 4
SSCC Meeting Yogo Inn, Lewistown	June 3, 4
"Show Me Shelterbelt Tour"	June 5 - 7
NACD Northern Plains Area Meeting Bismarck, North Dakota	June 9 - 11
Montana Chapter, Soil Conservation Society of America - Helena	June 7 - 8
American Society of Range Management, Intermountain Section, Annual Meeting Alberta, Canada	July 25 - 27
Montana Stockgrowers Association Great Falls	May 23 - 25
Montana Wildlife Association Hamilton	June 1
Montana County Commissioners Association - Livingston	June 10 - 12
MASWCD Annual Meeting LaLonde Hotel, Sidney	October 30, 3 and November

* * * * * * * * * * *

GLACIER COUNTY SWCD ACQUIRES DEMONSTRATION FARM

The Bureau of Indian Affairs recently granted the Glacier County SWCD an 80 acre tract of land to be used for demonstration purposes. A conservation plan is being drawn up.

Irrigation, water management, drainage, and farm tillage methods will be demonstrated. Adapted grasses and crops will be grown.

The District hopes to demonstrate that a profit can be realized as well from this operation.

As a child, the big fat man had a big stomach, but that's all behind him now.

Shown here with Congressman Jim Battin is a delegation of Montana Soil and Water Conservation District Officers on their recent visit to Washington, D.C. They are Carl Johnson, Frank Thompson, Charles Lane, Elmer Lund, A.B. Linford, A.G. "Slim" Slattery and Peter Jackson.

These men also conferred with Congreeeman Arnold Olsen, Senators Mike Mansfield and Lee Metcalf, their staffs and other government officials. Listed below are excerpts from reports they have made of their trip:

Carl Johnson

Somewhere I read a book or saw a movie wherein "Mr. Deeds went to Washington". Several Mr. Deeds* from the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts went to Washington on March 16, 1968.

Probably the biggest purpose of the trip was to acquaint our Montana Congressmen with what we as members of the MASWCD are trying to do; some of the problems we must overcome; how we proposed to solve them; and to ask for their help.

We were very well received! Through the efforts of our State President, Pete Jackson, many of our appointments were set up in advance. A great deal of data was prepared by President Jackson and some phase of it was introduced (in an informal manner) by one of the delegates to each group or person with whom we had an audience.

So much for "introductory statements" -- My personal opinion is that the Soil and Water Conservation movement is held in high esteem by our Montana Congressional Delegation. Any information we send them is greatly appreciated and well used. All of them agreed wholeheartedly with what we are trying to do and what we had to present.

We discussed Soil Conservation Service funding, interpretation of P. L. 566, technical assistance to districts, etc. and were assured of support in all these things.

We were a small cry from out of the Wilderness, but we were heard!

Charles Lane

Our trip to Washington, D. C. was one of the highlights of my life. It was probably the most educational and enjoyable trips I have ever taken. To be in the Capitol when Congress is in session as we were, one can almost feel the power and intensity of the problems that are there. I believe all of us, Pete, Carl, Frank, Slim, Elmer and I had the same feeling.

The reason for our trip was to let the people in Washington know that there are some people out here in Montana that know about conservation problems, and we are working to try to solve some of them. We wanted to tell them we appreciate what help we have received and would like some more in the future.

We tried to stress to all agency people that we are all after the same thing and to cut down on duplication of effort. There is too much to do and too little time to waste time doing things twice. We asked for more cooperation in overall planning of natural resources. We on the land and the agency people must work together; we must combine the best ideas and efforts of both to get the job done.

One thing that impressed us was that most of the people we talked to understood quite a bit of our program. They appeared as concerned as we are. This is good. Now I feel we should follow this trip up with another one at least once a year. We seem to have people on our side and in order to keep them informed first-hand, we must communicate with them first-hand. With the ground work we laid on this first trip, we must follow it up.

The people we met with included: Senator Mike Mansfield; Representative James Battin; Representative Arnold Olsen; Vic Reinemer; Ray Dockstetter; Representative James Whitten; Alfred L. Edwards, Deputy Assistant Secretary, USDA; Kenneth Grant, Associate Administrator, SCS; George McCarthy, Office of Economic Opportunity; Charles W. McDougal, Assistant Administrator, USDA; Edward Cliff, Chief of Forest Service, USDA; Boyd Rasmusen, Director, BLM; and Gil Stamm, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation.

You can see we had a busy three days meeting with the above people. It was a privilege to be one of the representatives of the MASWCD, and I feel we did ourselves some good. Thank you.

* * * * * * * * * * *

Frank Thompson

The success and effectiveness of our trip in behalf of Soil and Water Conservation is hard to evaluate as yet. It may take considerable length of time before any real and tangible results come to light.

The following left on March 16th and returned on the 20th: Carl Johnson, A. G. Slattery, Elmer Lund, Charles Lane, Frank Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Jackson, and Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Linford. If the manner in which we were received by those with whom we had appointments is any measure of our success, I would say we did very well. The discussion and question sessions took much more time than we had planned to ask for.

We had appointments with the following Congressmen: the Honorable James Whitten, Representatives James Battin and Arnold Olsen, Senators Mike Mansfield and Lee Metcalf. We told them the facts as we see them from the grassroots standpoint. We explored the possibility of getting funds restored for the ASCS, which have been cut from the budget and an increase in Conservation Operation Funds for the SCS and urged support for other legislation of interest to Conservation Districts.

Sessions were held with the following agency personnel. We met with Mr. Gil Stamm, Assistant Administrator of the Bureau of Reclamation and talked on small watershed projects and the 160 acre limitation. There seems to be some action to amend the law to change this.

We met with Mr. Boyd Rasmussen, Administrator of the Bureau of Land Management; multiple land use was the topic. We also met with Mr. Edward P. Cliff, Chief of Forest Service and Mr. Alfred L. Edwards, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of Agriculture on multiple use of forest lands and wilderness area designations.

Mr. Charles W. McDougal, Assistant U. S. Department of Agriculture, a friendly former County Agent, was a real pleasant fellow to visit with. Our topics were Conservation Education through the Extension Service, programs of rural zoning, urbanization, and basic conservation as it effects extension work.

Another Montanan we ran into was George McCarthy, Office of Economic Opportunity. We asked him if there were any programs administered by his office whereby we may be able to hire office help for districts. After some discussion, he assured us that if the proper procedure was followed we could secure some help through his office.

More funds for additional technicians was the chief topic which we discussed with Mr. Kenneth Grant, Associate Administrator of the Soil Conservation Service. He was well aware of our problem and assured us that they at the National level were doing everything possible at this time to obtain more funds.

In my opinion our trip was a success. We probably were there at the very worst time possible because of the gold situation, the Vietnam War and other social and political problems that seemed to make the situation very tense. We would all like to see some follow-up in years to come and to continue this practice of personal contact whereby we could show real results and progress.

* * * * * * * * * * *

Elmer Lund

In evaluating the results of our trip, we might ask "How much did we accomplish in Washington and was there some way we could have made our efforts more effective?"

I feel that we did accomplish a great deal while we were in Washington. We didn't come as paid lobbyists. The very fact that a group of active ranchers would take time out of their busy schedule to present to our legislators the case of conservation that effects everyone carries a lot of weight. As we presented to them our stand that conservation does have priorities in agricultural appropriations, these statements were well received and we were promised that they would be presented to the Committee and the House when appropriations are being considered. Our visits to other agency offices, I believe, will also bear fruit. Work of this kind is often of an intangible nature, but the good will we create and showing them the fact that conservation has our devoted interest and support will produce results as time goes on.

Another thing I want to mention is that every legislator we talked to was for us. This was fine, and we tried to give them material they could use to help our cause when they could. However, I believe it was Mr. Whitten who suggested that we should present our case to those who do not have a full understanding of what conservation means to our State and our Nation, or to those who feel that other agencies or departments should have priority of funds over conservation work. It would have been very interesting to have made some contacts with those who favor a cut in conservation funds and to hear their side of the story. In presenting our side of the story to them, we might have been able to sow some seeds that would have helped our cause.

Our whole trip had been very well planned, thanks to the work of Peter Jackson and Ave Linford. Pete, as our leader in making the contacts, did an outstanding job; and everything moved right along and on schedule. I'm sure that as long as conservation is in the hands of capable, dedicated men such as these, we are going to move forward and accomplish our goals. I'm glad I can have some part in this good work, and am thankful to have been asked to be a part of this delegation.

A. G. "Slim" Slattery

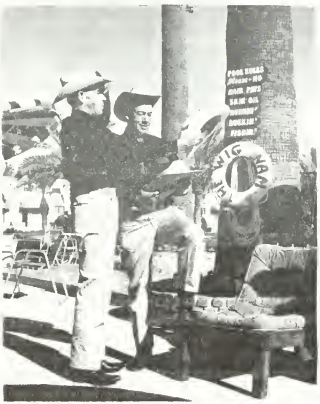
The purpose of the trip was to iron out our problems of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts, including funding, small watersheds, technical assistance, combining agencies, standardizing of specifications exchanging data, education, and cooperative effort in agencies.

Our Montana delegation presented prepared documentary proof at the hearings. Mr. Jackson, our State President, did an excellent job with this evidence. Each delegate had the same proof, but each one gave his own testimony and was responsible for the particular phase on which he testified and was responsible for that testimony.

We also met with the Representatives, Arnold Olsen, western district, and James Battin, eastern district. Senator Mike Mansfield prepared an office hearing for the group, at which we were very well received. Each presented his evidence as we had at the other hearings.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

GOODYEAR WINNER



Reed Christensen, outstanding conservation farmer, and Dale Marxer, Chairman of the Cascade Soil and Water Conservation District, are shown as they try on hats during their trip to Goodyear Farms in Arizona last December.

Dale Marxer reports: "The four days spent in Arizona's Valley of the sun with the other 52 Soil and Water Conservation District officials and the 53 outstanding farmers and ranchers, including my fellow traveler, Reed Christensen, will long be remembered as one of the most wonderful experiences of my life.

The thing that startled Reed and I the most was the water irrigation. They literally use the water until they wear it out. They irrigate down through the fields and at the end of each field the water is ditched or piped to another field until it gets to the lower end of the ranch where it is caught in a huge basin and is pumped back up to the other end, mixed with fresh water and started off all over again.

The water is pumped from deep wells which average 882 feet in depth. The water table is dropping at the rate of 10 feet per year. Believe me, those people aren't talking about 'If they can get water from their neighbors to the north', but 'when', and you can easily see why when it costs $40,000 for a well and pump, not to mention the cost of pumping. One well will irrigate 100 acres of cotton and some crops take even more, of course. They were pasturing their 7th crop of alfalfa. The cotton was about all harvested. We saw many different types of implements, some in the experimental stages yet.

It was rewarding to exchange ideas with the other fellows on the way their Districts operate and raise money to finance some of their various activities. States operate much the same as we do here in Montana, but others seem to have almost unlimited funds for operation of districts provided by the state.

As I said in the beginning, this was a trip that I will long remember; and I shall never forget the wonderful friends that I exchanged thoughts with. I certainly urge all districts to participate in the Goodyear Program, not only for the trip, but for the improvement of the district and more and better conservation."

DISTRICT DOINGS

DANIELS COUNTY SWCD - Discussed was the planting of trees along the county road to stop snow drifting. The County Commissioners agreed to provide the county tree planter free for these plantings for the next calendar year. The Commissioners asked that the trees be planted at least 5 rods from the road right-of-way.

NORTH CUSTER SWCD - Art Kegel suggested that a Conservation Day be established at Kinsey and to have school students make up contest material, put on stunts, etc.

BIG SANDY SWCD - Discussion had on volunteer donations to district on engineering help hired by the District. Motion by Halvorsen and seconded by Sibra. This is to be a sliding scale of $5.00 for one day or less and $10.00 for over one day by cooperator. A like amount is to be collected from contractor if needed for this job. This is to be used to hire technical help by the District due to the lack of funds for this type of help by the Soil Conservation Service. Motion passed.

ROSEBUD COUNTY SWCD - Chairman Steiger read letters regarding SCS funds. Letters were received from all Congressmen expressing their support for needed funds by which to operate. The supervisors were pleased to hear from them.

Oath of Office was given and signed by the newly elected supervisor J. M. Nansel.

FLATHEAD SWCD - Mr. Warren Hook, representing the Anaconda Aluminum Company visited with the Supervisors about weed inventory on the Company's land. He reported they are anxious to cooperate.

JEFFERSON VALLEY SWCD - Urban representation on the Board of Supervisors was discussed. It was decided on the suggestion of Jeff Lauderdale that he attend the next town council meeting to inform the officials of the advantages of membership in the district and to extend an invitation to them for a member to attend the supervisor's meeting in the near future.

TRAINING PROGRAMS IN CONSERVATION EDUCATION SCHEDULED

Schedule of conservation courses carrying credits is as follows:

Eastern Montana College	
Conservation Course	June 10-July 12
Montana State University	
Geography Course	June 17-August 16
Montana Tech	
Mineral Resource Course	June 10-July 3
Western Montana College	
Conservation Course	July 15-August 9
Dawson College	
Conservation Course	July 15-August 9
Northern Montana College	
Conservation Workshop	July 15-August 9
Montana Conservation Council	
Workshop for Women	August 12-14
University of Montana	
Conservation Workshop	June 17-July 17
University of Montana	
Family Camping & Rec.	July 21-28

* * * * * * * * * * *

SODIUM CARBONATE USED TO SEAL PONDS

U. S. Department of Agriculture Scientists disked sodium carbonate into dry pond bottoms to prevent seepage and found that periodic "booster shots" will keep the stock ponds leak-proof. The sodium ions bonded to the clay particles in the soil and caused the soil to swell, creating an impermeable seal. Once treated, ponds receiving handfuls of sodium carbonate will be maintained at a high degree of impermeability.

* * * * * * * * * * *

"A TIME FOR INITIATIVE"

Observe Soil Stewardship Week
May 19 - 26, 1968

"SHOW ME" SHELTERBELT TOUR

Bill Kesler, Chairman of the Farm Forestry Committee of the MASWCD, has engaged the State Forester to take charge of a "Show Me" Shelterbelt Tour, June 5th through the 7th.

June 5 - Board busses at 8:00 A. M. in Great Falls. Travel to Tiber Dam recreation area, arrival at 11:00 A. M. -- Lunch provided by Liberty County SWCD at Sanford Park. Travel in afternoon to various windbreak plantings. Arrival in Chester at 5:30 P. M. for a banquet. Travel to Havre for over-night stay.

June 6 - Depart Havre 8:00 A. M. Tour route north of Havre on Route 232, viewing farmstead windbreaks and field shelterbelts, returning south through Gildford and to Fort Assinniboine and Experiment Station for lunch sponsored by the Hill County SWCD. Depart Experiment Station 2:00 P. M. and travel to Great Falls with two stops at Carter, Montana to view farmstead and field plantings and recreation planting. Stay overnight in Great Falls.

June 7 - Depart Great Falls 8:00 A. M. Travel to the north to view older farmstead windbreaks (established for 20 to 25 years) and some newer field windbreaks.

Return to Great Falls at noon and end tour.

IMPORTANT

Supervisors should notify the State Forester's Office by May 10 on the number of persons who will be making this tour from your District. The address to write to is: 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana 59801.

Arrangements must be made for those persons who will be going. However, do not hold back because you think there will be too many going. If at the last minute you see that you are free to make the trip, you will be more than welcome even though you haven't made reservations.

Montana Association of Soil and
Water Conservation Districts
(Return postage guaranteed)

Non-Profit Org.
U.S.Postage PD.
Permit No.171
Butte, Montana

MONT STATE LIBRARY
930 E LYNDALE
HELENA MONT 59601

5
333.72
53t

Treasure Acres

JUL 23 1968
STATE DOCUMENTS

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

O. M. Ueland, Editor, Montana Tech, Butte, Montana

MAY - JUNE, 1968

PETER V. JACKSON, MASWCD PRESIDENT SEZ:

I would like to use this article to report on the progress of our legislation.

The Executive Committee and Secretary have worked hard to get your wishes on paper so that we could have a good look at them and see just how much is needed, what we can eliminate, and if only minor changes in our law could do the job.

First, your Secretary, Wayne Gibson, made a careful study of resolutions and our District law. He then wrote up the changes that were needed. At this point, your Executive Committee met and went over the work very carefully. Several major changes were made and some additions were ...ed.

This was all re-typed, "thanks to donations from outside sources and our work-study secretary Miss Pat Kruss", for presentation to the combined Board of Dir-

GOVERNOR TIM BABCOCK PROCLAIMS SOIL STEWARDSHIP WEEK

Montana joined other states of the nation when Governor Tim Babcock signed a proclamation denoting the week of May 19-26 as Soil Stewardship Week.

Reports indicate that many programs, sermons, and news releases took place associated with the theme "A Time for Initiative."

The Governor's proclamation noted that natural resources are the subject of increasing attention by people throughout Montana in towns, as well as in our cities and suburbs. Clear water and air, trees and soil are taking on new meanings with the discovery that these resources are not only limited but vital and have been fouled, wasted and ruined. It is time for all of us to examine and measure how well we are meeting our responsibilities for the care of natural resources and identify what new or added steps we can take as responsible citizens to develop and protect the resources around us.

President Sez, Continued

ectors and Executive Committee at Lewistown on June 3rd where the work was completely gone over and studied again.

I can assure you all that no word went unheeded at this meeting. Our Directors should be praised for their serious business-like manner in which they considered the changes needed in our law.

You can feel secure that this legislation contains no hidden clauses or devious wording. When the work is done and ready for presentation to our legislators, we can be proud to discuss these needs with anyone. For it will reflect only the basic needs of an agressive, sensible grassroots organization which has been charged with doing the big job of Natural Resource Conservation and has every intention of facing up to their responsibilities and getting the job done.

Your Association was well represented at the Area V Meeting in Bismarck, North Dakota. In spite of the worst time of the year, a delegation of fourteen came from Montana. I would like to take this time to thank you all for the hard work you did at Bismarck. This work will always pay off, if nothing more than in cementing good sincere relationships with our fellow states.

I have watched a major change that has slowly taken place in our Districts. Today supervisors are now looking at the entire scope of the problems they are trying to solve. Whether the problems are rural or urban has no longer any effect, only to remedy the true cause of the trouble is what is important.

I personally believe this is a wonderful sign of maturity and proof positive that Soil and Water Conservation Districts are truly the responsible people to handle resource development and especially from the local level and up.

The Great Society--that strange society under which wives as well as their husbands must work to pay their taxes so the government can spend billions to support families in which the wives and husbands don't work at all.

URBAN VOTES FAVORABLE

Six towns voted favorably at a referendum held in conjunction with the June 4 primary for addition to their respective Soil and Water Conservation Districts. They were Broadus 116 to 11, Fort Benton 354 to 66, Geraldine 74 to 8, Harlowton 441 to 33, Hysham 131 to 9, and Wibaux 191 to 13.

Big Sandy 517 to 21, and Drummond 92 to 6 voted earlier this spring. Havre and Hingham have had hearings and will be voting in conjunction with the general election in November. Jordan has submitted a petition for addition. It is estimated that perhaps 20 more petitions will be received by September.

WATERSHED BOND ISSUES FAVORABLE

On June 4 property owners of Lewistown voted 1,328 to 746 in favor of a $250,000 bond issue to finance their share of the $1,500,000 Lewistown Flood Control Project. The stage is now set for the building of five dams, one of which will be for recreation, on Big Spring Creek and its tributaries. The project will be built under the P. L. 566 Watershed Program.

Also voting on a bond issue of $65,000 June 4 were property owners of Columbia Falls for the Cedar Creek Flood Project. Their vote was 419 to 82 in favor. The estimated cost of this watershed project is $412,656. Benefits are flood control and municipal water.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Genetics was labeled the "most neglected area in the beef business" at the Production Indexing Center Field Day and Beef Cattle Forum at Stanford, Montana. But Banker James Wempner, Billings, selected management of grass as the most neglected area. A study of 15 ranches showed a difference in net returns of $15,000 per year (the best made $9,000, the poorest lost $6,000); the difference was largely in the way the range was managed. About 1,000 cattlemen from Montana, Alberta, and elsewhere in the northern plains took in the field day and sale.

Subtlety is the art of saying what you think, and getting out of range before it is understood.

JOHN SCHROEDER RECEIVES CONSERVATION AWARD

Shown above is Don Aldrich, President of the Montana Wildlife Association and former recipient of the American Motors Award, presenting John Schroeder of LoLo with the American Motors bronze sculptural medallion award at the Soil Conservation Society of America Annual Meeting June 8.

This award is presented annually to ten professional and ten non-professional conservationists throughout the United States for dedicated efforts in the field of renewable natural resources, which would not otherwise gain widespread public recognition.

John is a long time supervisor of the Missoula County Soil and Water Conservation District. He was selected for his leadership in the conservation of natural resources in Montana. He has been especially effective in achieving cooperation and understanding between conservation organizations and in initiating and supporting education and conservation legislation. In addition, he has been appointed by three governors to serve as a member of the Montana Soil Conservation Committee.

Seated in the foreground is Mrs. John Casey, Mistress of Ceremonies.

ROAD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL IS FORMED

A Highway Joint Development Council has been formed by the Montana Highway Commission to consider recreation, conservation, and scenic aspects of construction in rural areas. The State Soil Conservation Committee, the Montana Fish and Game Department, the Montana Department of Planning and Economic Development, State Land Board, State Forester, U. S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, are among state and federal agencies represented on the Council.

The Montana Fish and Game Department and Highway Department have been working together on planning some fishing reservoirs along new highway construction in Montana. Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors will be interested in coordinating soils information, potential watershed and water development facilities, as well as recreation and beautification projects. Districts have spearheaded grass seeding and weed control programs. Long range planning and financing will be necessary to properly coordinate these things.

A big start has been made.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Harold Houlton, Agronomist of North Montana Experiment Station tells Blaine County School Conservation Tour members about range improvement.

Approximately 100 attended the tour.

Gas station attendant to woman motorist with dented fender: "I don't know whether I should sell you any gasoline. Looks to me as though you've had enough already."

FERGUS COUNTY SWCD - Mrs. Ellen Rickl presented some ideas on what the district could do to assist in conservation education-information for the schools. After much discussion it was decided that the Fergus County orientation meeting for rural teachers will be held at the Agricultural Building August 23, and the District will present the afternoon program to the teachers. The District will also furnish coffee and donuts for the teachers for both afternoon and morning sessions.

LITTLE BEAVER SWCD - The supervisors discussed the need for priority on conservation practices and feel that they should contact the ACP office to learn if it would be better to give various practices priority instead of pay for the practices in the order they are signed up. They will discuss this with Everett Zinne, manager of the ASCS Office, and others before any action is taken.

GARFIELD COUNTY SWCD - Mrs. Alma Rowton is to be notified that as soon as she has received verification that she has been accepted in a conservation course at an approved college she will be eligible to receive the District's $50.00 cash conservation scholarship.

Guptill and Mooney have completed a conservation film list for use by the grade school teachers & 4-H leaders. The list has been distributed.

CARBON SWCD - There is still interest among the supervisors to take a tour of the area south of the Pryors where the controversial wild horses exist. Brunsvold will be in contact with Sterle Dale and will have him make arrangements with the Bureau of Land Management for a tour sometime during the week of July 15.

Dykstra reported that personnel from the geological survey in Billings have agreed to make measurements of water losses in some representative ditches around the District.

LINCOLN SWCD - Conservation tours for 8th grade students of the Eureka area schools were held on May 1 and of Troy area schools on May 2. These tours were conducted by Louis Rollman, County Extension Agent, and Bill Shelley, Work Unit Conservationist.

A discussion was held on the Soil and Water Conservation Tour scheduled for the Libby area on June 13. Most of the supervisors were unable to attend this tour and it was decided to wait until more projects had been completed in the Libby area.

LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY SWCD - Myrlin Donaldson asked if the SWCD would be in a position to help out with beautification on projects such as the Fair Grounds. The Board expressed a desire to work on beautification and since Mr. Donaldson is on the Fair Board, he will see if there are any projects appropriate. He will report back to the Board.

Paul Kleffner volunteered to work with the Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Committee on an Urban Conservation Tour in June.

ROOSEVELT COUNTY SWCDs - Jack Wicks reported that final arrangements have been made for an eighth grade conservation tour at Wolf Point and Culbertson & Froid schools. Harry Swank reported that Poplar was also interested in these tours and asked that arrangements be made to hold a tour in the Poplar area.

RICHLAND COUNTY SWCD - The vote on the recreation lake was discussed at length. Walt Anderson answered questions on taxes, location, and precinct votes on the lake. The supervisors decided that another attempt should be made as soon as possible to obtain the lake. The general concensus of the Board was to press for another vote on the recreation area in the fall election in November.

LIBERTY COUNTY SWCD - The District decided they would donate the use of the tree planter to the Chester Community Recreation Park as their contribution to the Park.

SWEET GRASS COUNTY SWCD - Mabry distributed literature on "Montana Soil Conservation Districts Contribution to Water Development". It was suggested that the same information on a county basis be worked up for a news item or for the annual meeting. A district newsletter was discussed and the idea tabled. It was suggested that a news item be published in the local paper once a month.

A beautiful woman is one you notice, while a charming woman is one who notices you.

"THE FUTURE OF DISTRICTS"

We hear a lot today about organizational and social activities that are locally based and oriented with the people of the community affected. I think we are all agreed that local participation and grassroots control of organizations, subdivisions of Government and Government itself, is highly commendable and the most Democratic process of all human social activity.

Local Soil & Water Conservation Districts have, from their inception, been locally organized and controlled, a fact, we may all be proud of. The march of time and man's progress has not changed this concept and let us hope that it never will. However, man's technological and scientific advancement and its changing social pattern has dramatically changed the outlook and complexity of resource conservation and planning. These changes in turn demand a changing and receptive attitude on all organizations and groups administering and sponsoring the broad aspects of conservation. In our Districts, we have failed to meet the challenge of this change. In the matter of District financing, we are a "beggar group" in a world of high-powered finance and advertising. We are the destitute champions of a cause that effects every man, woman and child in our nation.

Our changing social structure dictates that we can no longer be concerned with problems of strictly local nature. Such problems as flood control, water pollution, urban water supply, air pollution and the many facets of recreation are demanding our attention.

The Districts, as presently established, are financially and by virtue of statute, unable to effectively administer the multi-interest and multi-purpose resource developments required by our modern day society.

It is in view of our limitations as Districts that we must look forward toward new enabling legislation, providing new and supporting entities entrusted with new powers and responsibilities necessary to expedite resource conservation and development with the complex interests concerned.

The powers necessary to achieve this must include among others: the power of eminent domain, the power of taxation and the power of bonding. The Governing Boards shall receive these powers only at the consent of the people being taxed and bonded. The people must have representation on the Board equal to their respective participation and benefit in the project concerned.

If we fail to receive legislative updating, the alternative could well be the increased role of higher echelons of state and federal government in resource development and the consequent loss of local control.

The above was written by Walter Myllymaki, Chairman of the Judith Basin SWCD.

* *

DATES TO REMEMBER

4-H Camp at Little Bitterroot Camp - Kalispell			*July 8-12*
American Society of Range Management, Intermountain Section Annual Meeting, Alberta, Canada			*July 25-27*
MASWCD AREA MEETINGS			
Western Montana	*(Area V)*	*Kalispell*	*September 30*
Triangle	*(Area III)*	*Great Falls*	*October 1*
Headwaters	*(Area VI)*	*Three Forks*	*October 2*
Southcentral	*(Area V)*	*Billings*	*October 3*
Northeastern	*(Area I)*	*Glasgow*	*October 4*
Southeastern	*(Area II)*	*Baker*	*October 5*
MASWCD ANNUAL MEETING	*LaLonde Hotel*	*Sidney*	*October 30, 31, & November 1*

WHAT IS A SWCD LADIES' AUXILIARY?

Behind the Soil Conservation Supervisors is a group known as the Auxiliary. We stand ready to help when we are needed -- passing out Soil Stewardship material to the various churches of the County, joining in the Education Program of the Youth, serving lunches to the men on our meeting nights and helping to serve lunches on Research Field Day. There are the "fun times" too. The picnics, the steak dinners, conventions, etc. We've made a scrapbook to tell the story of our activities since we organized. We had fun making favors for some of the state conventions.

Our resources are many, but we need to conserve them as individuals, as families, as communities and as a country.

Let's paint a picture. "Let's go fishing." "Okay! Mom get some lunch together and we'll all go down to the pond." Do you hear this at your home? We have tried to make a place for family fun and recreation where we can be close to nature and hence close to our Maker who "entrusted this land to our keeping." Here we have water, wildlife, (the pond was stocked with trout - and there may be some ducks swimming if you approach quietly), some trees have been planted which in time will make cover for more wildlife, and though the banks are not covered with grass yet, we picture this in the near future. Our picture isn't complete without a fireplace, and a picnic table with the family gathered around, pausing to give thanks for this great land of ours.

Let's unite in our efforts to make this a better land to leave to future "Stewards".

(The above article was taken from the Roosevelt County SWCD Newsletter and was written by Mrs. Harry Swank, Jr., Vice-President of the SWCD Auxiliary of Roosevelt County.)

A CHALLENGE TO ALL INCUMBENT AND PROSPECTIVE SUPERVISORS

We recognize the importance as well as the difficulty of the job of District Supervisor. When a Supervisor files his Oath of Office, he assumes a legal and moral responsibility in the conservation and orderly development of the land, water and related resources of his community and State. A Supervisor holds a responsible and unique position. A supervisor is a member of the District governing body directing a legal subdivision of the State, responsible to landowners of the District.

A District's success is dependent upon what Supervisors choose to make of their many opportunities. Supervisors can place time and energy into the work and see the entire area grow and prosper, or Supervisors can slide along without much effort and be Supervisors in name only.

Supervisors receive no monetary reward for services and efforts. At times, it seems Supervisors are performing a thankless task, but reward comes in full measure from the personal satisfaction in realization of the pleasure of the giving of time and talents to the community and State, and in the knowledge of having helped to establish a perpetually stronger base upon which a greater and more prosperous America may be built. Supervisor's accomplishments will largely determine the length of time our country will endure as a land blessed with abundance, prosperity, and a standard of living unsurpassed anywhere on earth.

Districts can and do receive invaluable assistance from many agencies, organizations and individuals. How well Supervisors make use of this assistance and how well they are able to coordinate these cooperative efforts in the building of an effective District program will be reflected in the District's success. --- Courtesy of the Arizona Association of SWCDs Newsletter.

Joe: "My wife dreamed she married a millionaire last night."
Jack: "You're lucky. Mine thinks that in the daytime.

Small Boy to Chum: "So that's it. I always figured the stork had too short a wingspread to carry an eight-to ten pound load."

"Show Me" Shelterbelt Tour A Success

A "Show Me" Shelterbelt Tour was held on June 5, 6, and 7 through parts of Liberty, Hill, Cascade, and Chouteau Counties. Transportation was furnished by the State Forester's Office. Forty people attended the tour on the first day, 30 the second day, and 20 on the third day. Twelve people made the entire trip.

Chuck Wright, who coordinated the trip for the State Forester's Office, stated that the tour was a success.

Comments were made from the various landowners whose shelterbelts were visited that field shelterbelts were fairly easy to manage and that they really do some good.

Pictured below is Joe Ostebauer, a Hill County SWCD Cooperator, explaining the establishment and management of his field windbreak plantings. Mr. Ostebauer's ranch is located north of Gildford, Montana.

Liberty County Youths Win International Land Judging Contest

Four youngsters from Liberty County, Gail Good, Garth Good, Curtis Seidlmaier, and Bill Cole attended the International Land, Range, & Pasture Judging Contest at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma the week of April 29th. They were accompanied on the trip by Larry Brownell, County Extension Agent, Chester, and Mrs. Charles Good of Chester.

Gail, Garth, Curtis & Bill took first place in the Land Judging Contest. The trophy they won was inscribed as follows:

"International Land Judging Contest
Western Region Champion 4-H Team"

Each one received a certificate stating they had competed in this contest.

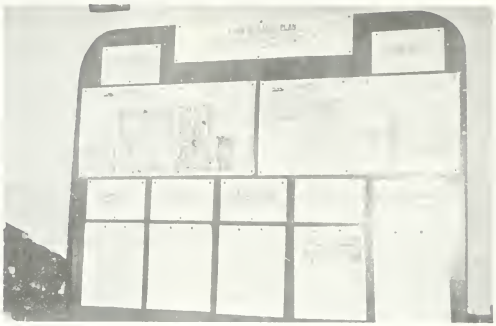
This contest is sponsored by WKY Television in Oklahoma City.

The Montana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Dixtricts were co-sponsors in paying the expenses of these youths to Oklahoma City. Sincere congratulations to them and their leaders for an outstanding performance of which Montana can be proud.

"DAUGHTER," said the mother, "didn't I tell you not to let strange men come into your apartment? You know things like that worry me."
Don't be ridiculous, Mother!" laughed the girl. "I went to his apartment this time. Now, let his mother worry!"

"HOLSTERS" - It was a Saturday evening, and a man was waiting for a friend in front of a store on Main St. Nearby stood a cowboy in boots and stetson, beside him a small boy who was a junior-size version of himself. The child stared for a time into the shop window, which featured a display of brassieres, and then asked, "What are those, Daddy?" The cowboy turned his head briefly to look, then drawled, "Well, son, they're kinda like holsters."

CONSERVATION WORKSHOP DISPLAY



Shown above is a Conservation Plan display located at Northern Montana College in Havre which will be used as a visual aid in the conservation workshop conducted by Mr. Hagener and in the farm and ranch management classes taught by Mr. Siebrasse. The plan is for the combination farm-ranch of Sig Meland, north of Havre, and he has consented to allow the students to visit his ranch to see the application of the conservation practices listed in the plan.

This display was prepared by the Hill County Soil & Water Conservation District with the assistance of the local Soil Conservation Service office. The plan was written by Bill Armstrong, Soil Conservationist in Hill County.

Montana Association of Soil and
Water Conservation Districts
(Return postage guaranteed)

Non-Profit Org.
U.S.Postage PD.
Permit No.171
Butte, Montana

MONT STATE LIBRARY
930 E LYNDALE
HELENA MONT 59601

S
333.72
S3t

AUG 28 1968
STATE DOCUMENTS

Treasure Acres

Montana Association SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION Districts
CONSERVATION · DEVELOPMENT · SELF-GOVERNMENT

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE · MONTANA · SEAL

O. M. Ueland, Editor, Montana Tech, Butte, Montana

JULY - AUGUST, 1968

Peter V. Jackson, President Says:

The time is fast approaching when we will be holding our annual area meetings over the State. These meetings are extremely important due to the fact that it is impossible for everyone to attend our Annual State Convention. Again this year Carl Johnson, your Vice-President, and myself will be attending all six area meetings.

First, we feel that the very importance of these meetings demand our attendance, but more especially we have some very important legislative matters to discuss and explain to all the supervisors and legislators. The legislation that we are attempting to put together will have a tremendous effect on the status, atmosphere, and general attitude of districts and their boards of supervisors.

It is an undisputed fact that the districts now have a huge responsibility. The

Continued on Page 2

Little Bitter Root Lake 4-H Conservation Camp

It was a vintage year at the 22nd annual Montana 4-H Conservation Camp held for the first time in three years at Little Bitter Root Lake, east of Kalispell, July 9-13. An outstanding group of 109 delegates and return campers had perfect weather and the right frame of mind to absorb a revamped, action-packed program.

RETURN CAMPERS KEEP THINGS MOVING
These were return campers who planned much of the program for the Montana 4-H Conservation Camp at Little Bitter Root Lake. Left to right are Joe Bratsky, Bridger, Bruce Bixby, Wolf Point, Dave Chalmers, Choteau; Ina Ann Beaudry, Valier; Joe Warner, Whitefish; Helen Hannon, Darby; Carol Kelsey, Bridger; and Linda Marxer, Great Falls.

Continued on Page 4

Pete Jackson Named to Department of Agriculture Public Advisory Committee on Soil & Water Conservation

Pete Jackson, Harrison, Montana, President of the MASWCD, has been asked by Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman, to serve on an 18 member committee which represents a broad range of soil and water conservation interest throughout the United States.

The term of office for Committee Members of the Public Advisory Committee is two years. The Advisory Committee is asked to meet at least once each year and at such other occasions as may be mutually found desirable.

It is the purpose of Mr. Freeman to obtain from the Committee objective evaluation and constructive suggestions for program needs and development in the field of soil and water conservation. Mr. Freeman states, "I consider the soil and water conservation activities of the Department of Agriculture as extremely important to the welfare of our nation. Research, education, technical assistance, cost-sharing and credit are all essential tools for helping the private landowners in our country to properly use and conserve their land for its future protection and improvement".

The 1968 Annual Meeting of the Public Advisory Committee will be held in Washington, D. C., October 9, 10, and 11, 1968.

* * * * * * * * * * *

DATES TO REMEMBER
MASWCD AREA MEETINGS

Western Montana	*Kalispell*	*September 30*
Triangle	*Great Falls*	*October 1*
Headwaters	*Three Forks*	*October 2*
Southcentral	*Billings*	*October 3*
Northeastern	*Glasgow*	*October 4*
Southeastern	*Baker*	*October 5*

MASWCD ANNUAL MEETING

LaLonde Hotel	*Sidney*	*October 30, 31, & November 1*

Following an operation, the Medicare patient woke up and found a placard on his incision. It read: "This is a Federal project, showing your dollar at work."

President Sez, Continued from Page 1

easiest way to see just how large the responsibility really is, is to read the Soil and Water Conservation District Law. In the years just past, these awesome charges were passed over as something to be reckoned with in the future. The time has arrived where the demands of a hungry multitude, not only in the U.S.A., but all over the world are coupled with spreading suburbia, airports, factories, highways, and recreation areas. We aren't just independent agrarian people working in our fields -- the true example of free enterprise. Now, all these factors are crowding in on us and demanding that we perform our task of making sure that the natural resources of soil and water are preserved and made to produce what is needed today to meet our standard of living.

One final fact of life - there will be no turning back to the good old days. This is impossible. Likewise, the same good old days of our districts are gone. But this isn't bad. In fact, it's good, even exciting to think that we are really that important to all the other people and they must be so dependent on us.

The one satisfying thing about all this is that we are already getting underway. With the new additions and changes put into our district law, we will be able to do our part in conservation in the manner required of us.

Our area meetings are also the starting point for resolutions for the annual meeting. Legislation may be all important, but someone must tend the shop. So if you have a resolution to present, get it ready and you can feel assured that it will get the Association's full attention. For the record, we acted on every resolution from last year's convention by March of 1968. We weren't successful on every one, but we sure tried our very best and we did a lot of good too.

In conclusion, don't forget to call that legislator and invite him to the area meeting. Better yet, give him a lift - then you can get better acquainted during the trip. You just might be surprised that these politicians are human beings and darn nice fellows to boot.

"Mommy, can I swim in the ocean?"
"No, the water's too rough "
"But daddy's swimming."
"Daddy's insured."

tory of Montana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts' Auxiliary

The Montana State Soil and Water Conservation Districts Auxiliary was organized on November 15, 1958 in Bozeman, Montana when 20 ladies united together.

The first officers elected for the Auxiliary were Mrs. Oscar Hippe of Froid, President; Mrs. Leslie Criswell of Hysham, Vice-President; and Mrs. Frank Thompson of Wolf Creek, Secretary-Treasurer. The Vice-President was selected to be the Historian for the organization and to take care of the scrapbook.

Presidents elected by the Auxiliary since its inception are:

Mrs. Oscar Hippe, Froid.....1959-1960
Mrs. Leslie Criswell, Hysham.....1961-1962
Mrs. Frank Thompson, Wolf Creek.....1963-1964
Mrs. Harold Jensen, Baker.....1965-1966
Mrs. Eugene Larsen, Culbertson.....Was elected President in 1967 and is the current President for 1968.

The Auxiliary has been very active in several projects over the years; one project has been distributing the Soil Stewardship material to pastors of churches and urging them to use the material and to observe Soil Stewardship Sunday.

Each year the Auxiliary donates gifts for door prizes for Area and National Conventions. In 1963 a poster contest was held with a bond given as first prize, and a donation of $5.00 was given to the restoration of the old Governor's Mansion in Helena.

Each year the Auxiliary donates to the "Chatterbox". A donation was sent to the Davis Memorial Library for the purpose of purchasing a book one year.

Montana has only 1 organized District Auxiliary, which is the Roosevelt County SWCD Auxiliary. This Auxiliary made earrings from local sagebrush for favors for each lady at the Area Meeting in 1965. In 1966 they made the table decorations for the 25th Annual Meeting of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

At the 1967 Convention of the MASWCD, the State Auxiliary was asked to attend the Education Committee meeting. The turnout was so good they had to find a larger room to accomodate those in attendance. The ladies were asked to stress the educational phase of Soil and Water Conservation in their respective communities.

Pictured below are the 1968 Officers of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Mrs. Eugene Larsen
President

Mrs. Dean A. Hanson
Vice-President

Mrs. Kenneth Coulter
Secretary-Treasurer

The youths were reminded they have the brainpower to solve the problems of waste and pollution, and were urged to come up with the courage and fortitude to do it by WILLIAM J. KESLER of Kalispell, past president of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. County SWCDs paid transportation for most of the delegates.

Kesler explained, "everyone is only inches from a 'desert', and the soil and moisture covering the land must be protected so that the one-in-eight of those who will become farmers or ranchers will be able to continue to produce food and fiber for himself and 44 others --or more."

"Some 2½ million acres annually are lost to highways, urban growth, industry and other non-agricultural needs," Kesler said. "The air and water of many communities fast is becoming polluted and there are new threats," he said.

"Pollution and waste can be controlled, and possibly could be non-existent by the year 2000, " Kesler said. "Be not the polluters of our present and past generations," he asked the youths.

Kesler's description of Soil and Water Conservation Districts goals--to keep a balance between water and soil resources needed for commercial agriculture production--were repeated in various ways by instructors and speakers.

"America faces a decision on the amount of land which it can put under asphalt," said John Harris, University of Montana Wildlife Extension Director from Missoula. He said California is uing 100 acres a day for urban growth.

"Of 36 billion acres of real estate in the world, four billion acres have been used up for agriculture and development, most of what is suitable," Dr. Harris said. "Anything done to land affects something else, particularly the food chain or energy-nutrient cycle which produces potential food," he said. "In this chain only about 10 percent is transferred in each stage as the sun, water and soil nutrients combine to create minute plants and animals, which in turn provide food for insects, grasses and plants," Dr. Harris said. "These in turn are consumed by forage fish or animals to in turn provide food for game fish, game animals or man," he explained. "Whether the grass-rabbit-hawk, plankton-insect-forage fish-game fish or other cycle, any change in air or water quality changes the balance," he said.

The food chain was detailed as basis for wildlife classes by Eldon Smith, Extension Wildlife Specialist. He related the transfer of energy in nutrient form for fish, game animals, upland birds and waterfowl as he described the type of management required to maintain both wildlife and its habitat.

"Hunter harvest may be far wiser conservation than trying to feed elk or any unnatural effort to build up game numbers," Smith said. He said "wild Montana elk produce three to four times as many live calves for a given number of cows as the Jackson, Wyoming herd which has been fed hay for years."

"Anyone can be a conservationist, but far too few people are," said George Ostrum, Kalispell business consultant and former Forest Service smokejumper instructor. He described Montana's 'blue-ribbon trout stream', the Madison River, as 'completely like a garbage dump from one end to the other on both sides'.

"Having only 14 million of two billion acres of wilderness left is like starting with $1,000 and having only $7.00 left," Ostrum said.

Ostrum said, "as an 'anti-dam man' he opposes a dam on the Big Hole River or the Missouri River in Montana and termed high mountain lakes for irrigation storage in the

Continued on Page 5

Bitter Root Valley area as a threat to primitive or wilderness status." As a founder of the 'Save the Grizzly Bear Club', Ostrum said "both two fatal Grizzly maulings and costly fires in Glacier National Park could have been prevented." He decried shooting of bald eagles on McDonald Creek in the Park.

Emergency preparedness, based on civil defense information but geared to outdoor survival, was taught as a new course by Harold Strobel of Bozeman, Extension Adult Civil Defense Specialist.

Alan Eppa, an MSU graduate student, taught recreation area management and emphasized importance of utilizing a natural look. He was assisted by Jim Krall, an MSU Student.

Also new was a water resources class directed by Jane Campbell, Lake County Extension Agent. She was assisted by Dick Bauer, Future Farmer of America advisor at Ronan, and Eugene Phillips, Kalispell Attorney. Ned Jeffries of Bozeman, Extension Range Specialist, taught range plant identification as a way of determining range condition, assisted by Jack Parcell of Missoula, Soil Conservation Service Soil Scientist. This helped replace the usual soils course, which with weeds was not taught this year.

Firing on the range with .22s under tutelage of C. W. (Brick) Vaughn, State 4-H Extension Specialist, campfires, swimming, volleyball and other activities kept the youths busy at the Lions Camp. The 4-H members found time to come up with their own ideas about their responsibilities and potentials as stewards of the resources needed now and for future generations.

SIX INCHES FROM DESERT

Bill Kesler of Kalispell, past president of the Montana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, told conservation camp members they are only six inches from a desert and starvation in urging protection of the land and resources. Conservation problems can be solved by 2000, he said.

A miser is tough to live with, but he makes a darned good ancestor.

CONSERVATION CAMP STAFF

It takes a big staff to run a conservation camp, and not all were present at any one time. Left to right are Harold Strobel, Extension Civil Defense Specialist; Ned Jeffries, Extension Range Specialist; Jane Campbell, Lake County Extension Agent; Alan Epps, MSU graduate student; Don Becker, Granite County Extension Agent; Jim Krall, MSU Student; Elson Smith, Extension Wildlife Specialist; C. W. Vaughn, Extension State 4-H Specialist, & John Harris, UofM Wildlife Extension Director.

Racetrack Canal Lining Project Dedicated

The biggest pooling agreement yet in the state, "The Racetrack Ditch Association" in Powell County, a concrete canal lining project, was dedicated and put into use June 19, 1968.

The $200,000 water conservation project of 5½ miles of concrete-lined canals will eliminate water seepage losses of over 50 percent and replace 36 miles of gravel and earth ditches.

The voluntary association of 13 farmers and ranchers is under the leadership of John Vanisko, Chairman of the Deer Lodge Valley Soil and Water Conservation District. Cost-sharing was provided by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation. Engineering was done by the Soil Conservation Service.

About 150 people attended the dedication ceremonies, which was highlighted by a barbecue and speeches by Ave Linford, State Conservationist, SCS, and Viola Herak, Chairman, State ASCS Committee.

Jack Kelly, a farmer in the project, told that this was a 25 year dream come true. At one time, a dam was proposed. The saving of water in this project will make about 7,000 acre feet more water available, besides other benefits. Ave Linford,observed that this project shows what patience, persistence, and desire can do, and of what people working together can accomplish. Mrs. Herak observed how wonderful it is to have water when needed.

Main canal on the Racetrack Ditch Consolidation. The water will serve over 5,000 acres of prime agricultural land. Crops, such as potatoes, grain, hay, and irrigated pasture are being raised. Alvin Lane of Three Forks was the contractor.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

WINDBREAKS INCREASE CROP YIELDS

The quoted material below was taken from the North Dakota Publication. It is interesting to note how a farmer who has tried field windbreaks, and experienced the beneficial results, talks about them. Wind erosion was a problem for this farmer and so in 1966, he planted pattern type tree rows at 40 rod spacing on approximately 600 acres of his 1240 acre farm. Her is what he has to say about them.

"My increase in yield has been approximately three bushels per acre, and if the trees were planted at 20 rod intervals, instead of 40, the increase in yield would be doubled."

The tree plantings have improved crop production and reduced soil erosion, snow coverage is better, land values are up, and beauty has been added to the farm land.

"District Doings"

SHERIDAN COUNTY SWCD - The Montana Weed Control Law and proposed modifications was discussed and it was suggested that the local legislative candidates be invited to attend a meeting of the Board of Supervisors to discuss the weed law with them and to urge their support. It is felt that noxious weeds are becoming a major problem in the county.

PONDERA COUNTY SWCD - Chairman Snortland reported he had met with the Conrad City Council concerning their coming into the SWCD. He answered questions councilmen had and provided them with general information. No decision was reached due to other business. The Valier Mayor has been contacted and he will bring it up at their next Council meeting. Followup will continue with these towns.

BOX ELDER SWCD - There was considerable discussion concerning the fact that the ASCS office does not have as much money this year as last year. It was felt that some priority on various types of projects should be made.

MCCONE SWCD - Bob Brown reported on the Field Tour on June 15 at the Research Center at Sidney. He said it was a very interesting tour, well planned and worthwhile. Brown, Eggebrecht, Robbins and Bishop also attended.

LIBERTY COUNTY SWCD - Larry Brownell brought up that on the Range Tour, June 27 and 28 at the Sweetgrass Hills, a new range team had been chosen for the 1968-69 year. The members of the team are Vonda Mattson, Bill Cole, Toni Rae Brown and Randi Leighton. A trophy will be ordered to be presented on Achievement Night, and the ribbons are already here.

TREASURE COUNTY SWCD - A discussion was held regarding the 6 points in a letter from Wayne Gibson, MASWCD Secretary, concerning rancher-sportsmen relationships. It would make good subject matter for a district informational leaflet. Harold Miller, Montana Wildlife Federation President, requested a copy of the letter; he also showed 3 signs which are available for farmers to use in posting their land. Mr. Miller suggested that the District apparently wants to help get the message across that farmers and ranchers generally would be willing to provide sportsmen the opportunity to hunt if they ask for permission and respect the privilege of being allowed to hunt.

Gary Cunningham said the District would likely print some leaflet to help make better understanding between sportsmen and landowners. Harold Miller suggested printing it in the paper about two weeks before the hunting season.

FLATHEAD SWCD - Members put the final touches on plans for the Western Division of the Montana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts meeting to be hosted by Kalispell, September 30.

Report on the Supervisors Weed Tour was given by Carter Hardy and Lewis Fuller. A very good tour and the Supervisors are grateful to Russ Marsh for his part in the tour.

PARK SWCD - Carl Johnson moved the District purchase one-half page or a full page ad in the Montana Annual Meetings Program brochure and sell business card ads to local businessmen and contractors to assist in paying for the ad. Individual board members were designated to contact contractors and businessmen and report back at the next meeting.

DAWSON COUNTY SWCD - Supervisors discussed the display for the Dawson County Fair and suggested that if possible, Ken Kaul work up an exhibit on noxious weeds. Bergland stated he could get pamphlets on most of these weeds to be handed out in the booth.

RUBY VALLEY SWCD - The Fiscal Plan of Work for 1969 was read and approved by the Supervisors. It was decided to have it copied by stencil.

Letters had been written to the mayors of Virginia City, Sheridan, and Twin Bridges about the communities becoming members of the District, but no word has been received as of yet.

DEER LODGE VALLEY SWCD - John Vanisko reported the news that the Deer Lodge County is taking the initial steps to form a Weed Control District. He asked about the possibility of getting more ranchers to work on the Weed Board so as to give the county better coverage. Albert Beck explained that the number of members on the weed board was set by state law, but the Board was more than willing to accept all voluntary help or information.

Governor Babcock says Montana's Economic Base Depends Upon Development of our Water Resources

Governor Tim Babcock told the Pacific Northwest River Basins Commission at its meeting in Missoula, July 25, "the west depends for life upon its water supplies....certainly the expansion of Montana's economic base depends upon development of our water resources." He said proposals which we feel tend to restrict our future development are not viewed with approval by Montanans. Montanans realize, he said, that the water in our rivers belongs to those who make beneficial use of it, and that the user can just as well live in New Orleans or Portland as in Montana. Nevertheless, the Governor stated, we would argue that it is grossly unfair to deprive Montana of her future in order to guarantee one for the people of another state, whether that state be located downstream or outside the basin.

Governor Babcock said Montana's concern about her water future was well expressed in our last legislature. He cited examples of amendments to the SWCD Law to allow municipalities to become part of existing districts, to have representation and participate in water planning and developments of the districts. In addition, the legislature expanded the authority of cities and towns and counties to not only create districts for flood control, but for water conservation. He stated the term "water conservation" is further defined by the legislature to be "conservation, development, storage, distribution, drainage, and any other beneficial purpose, including industrial and municipal water supply". Even further he stated, the law includes under the term "water conservation" recreation, wildlife, irrigation, streamflow stabilization, household, and domestic use and pollution abatement.

Perhaps the most important and far-reaching legislation of all, according to the Governor, was the authorizing of the Water Resources Board to conduct a comprehensive study to formulate a long-range plan for the utilization of Montana's water resources.

Governor Babcock stated we must create a right to water by putting it to beneficial use. Legislation is just a vehicle to action. Action and action alone will establish the right of use.

The Governor related that at the present time we are doing a great many things in the area of water resources which receive little attention. Last year, for example, $12 million was spent on small Soil and Water Conservation Projects (through Soil and Water Conservation Districts).

The Governor concluded by stating that in order to develop our abundant resources, abundant high quality water is needed.

Here's your copy of:

Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
(Return postage guaranteed)

Nor.-Profit Org.
U.S.Postage PD.
Permit No.171
Butte, Montana

MONT STATE LIBRARY
930 E LYNDALE
HELENA MONT 59601

S
333.72
S3t

Treasure Acres

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

O. M. McFarland, Montana Tech., Butte, Montana Editor

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 1968

UNITY in ACTION

PULLING TOGETHER GETS THE JOB DONE

ATTEND YOUR CONSERVATION DIST. ASSOCIATION MEETING

OCT. 30, 31, NOV. 1, SIDNEY

"President Sez"

PETER V. JACKSON

I have just completed a statewide trip to our six Area Meetings. We have had to travel many miles with a minimum of sleep, but it was worth every moment of it. When you get to sit in on meetings and hear supervisors communicate on such an intelligent level, then you can feel completely reassured that what you have said about them was true.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are ready, able, and willing to take on and carry to completion the job that we are preparing for, which is the modern concept of resource development. No longer can we talk of simple wind and water erosion control programs; instead, we will work on the situation as a whole. The entire economic community of an area must be considered and worked on if we are to get full value for our money spent. This will be our overall plan of attack that we will be following in the future.

At one meeting I was akked by a new, young Supervisor, "How do you use the State Association, the Soil Conservation Service, and the State Committee?" The question seemed easy to answer, but after I had told him what my ideas were, he still seemed to be a little confused. Therefore, I proceeded to try to explain in detail, and to my amazement, I believe I explained it to myself also.

The Soil Conservation Service, of course, provides the technical assistance, but this becomes very broad too, for as you discuss new projects either on your own farm or at a District meeting you realize that there is something different here than with some other governmental agency. The Soil Conservation Service is here to assist, not order, and they have to wait to be asked. I believe this is cooperation in its finest form, for they must prove their worth on every job they do in order to stay in existence.

The State Association of Districts is an action group. Here, you have benefit of the sharp minds of Supervisors from all over the State working together to solve problems, implement programs, and represent the Districts at every level, be it local, State, or National. For our program to be useful, this Organization must be kept strong and independent, so as to keep it active. Whenever the Association gets lack-a-daisical or dependent, nearly all our progress ceases and we simply struggle to stay alive.

The State Soil Conservation Committee has some very particular duties charged to its care. These are to give advice and counsel to Districts, see that the District law is properly interpreted and adhered to. This is a precise duty and should be only done at this level. Should you need advice on some particular question, don't take it to the State Association for an interpretive answer, but be sure you go to the State Committee. If they can't give you an accurate answer immediately, they are in a position to get it for you. It is very important that answers are given correctly if our image and reputation are to stay intact. Also, the State Committee answers directly to the State Government because of the appointments by the Governor to this Committee. This is a legal tie; Districts are a subdivision of the State and therefor district responsibility must be observed. Also, the State Committee handles matters pertaining to State level actions working in joint liaison with other Bureaus and Agencies.

After considering all things affecting our relationship, it comes out that cooperation is the key to our success. No one is dependent; we are all independent, but to gain any semblance of success we must work closely together in a cooperative joint effort. Bureaucracy or Federal control is impossible under these terms. I personally have never seen a more workable plan; it demands respect, cooperation, and honesty. I am proud to be a part of this Organization, and I am sure it will accomplish great things in the future.

Wednesday, October 30, 1968

1:00 P. M. - State Directors Meeting
Pete Jackson Presiding
2:00 P. M. - Registration - Lalonde Hotel
3:00 P. M. - Tour by Bus to Knife Coal Mine and Lewis & Clark Power Station
6:00 P. M. - Social Hour - Lalonde Hotel
Courtesy of Caterpillar Dealers of Montana
7:00 P. M. - Smorgasbord - Lalonde Hotel
7:30 P. M. - Resolutions Committee
Carl Johnson (Legislation)
Harold Strand (Speaker)
8:00 P. M. - Entertainment - "America the Beautiful" presentation by Mr. & Mrs. Roger Hill & Mr. & Mrs. Dwayne Herman, Esmond, North Dakota

Thursday, October 31, 1968

8:00 A. M. - Registration - Lalonde Hotel
8:30 A. M. - Opening Session - Center Theater - Carl Johnson, Presiding
Talk - Dr. Erhardt Hehn - "Zoning in Montana & the Districts Responsibility"
9:00 A. M. - Area Meetings - Directors in Charge
Coffee Break - Courtesy Sidney Chamber of Commerce
9:45 A. M. - Committee Meetings
12:00 Noon - Keynote Luncheon - Elks Hall
Master of Ceremonies - Gary Torgerson
Invocation - Rev. Dean Rohner, Assembly of God Church
Color Ceremony
Mayor's Welcome - Oscar Anderson
Entertainment - Sidney High School Music Department
Keynote Address - George Darrow
2:00 P. M. - Address - Mons Teigen
Topic: "Conservation on State Lands"
2:30 P. M. - Gareth Moon - Topic: "State Forests & Soil Districts"
Coffee Break - Courtesy Sidney National Bank
3:00 P. M. - Panel - "Unified Action by Federal Agencies"
Moderator - A. G. "Slim" Slattery
Panelists: A. B. Linford, SCS
Jim Linne, BLM
Ken Keeney, USFS
Mike Drazich, Bureau of Recl.
W. H. McKenzie III - Corps of Engineers
Ansen Baker, BIA
5:30 P. M. - Awards Banquet - Lalonde Hotel
Master of Ceremonies - Selmar Jordheim
Invocation - Rev. Charles Dever, St. Matthew's Catholic Church
Entertainment - Sidney High School Music Department
Address - Sam Studebaker
Goodyear Awards
Newsletter Awards - Elmer Lund
Supervisor Awards - Yugo Nayematsu
Work Unit Conservationist Awards - Everett Snortland
County Agent Awards - Clint McFarland
10-25 Year Supervisor Awards - Harry Swank, Jr.

Friday, November 1, 1968

7:00 A. M. - Directors Breakfast - Peter Jackson, Presiding - Governor's Room, Lalonde Hotel - Courtesy of Lower Yellowstone REA
8:00 A. M. - Milo Hilstad, Presiding Center Theater
8:20 A. M. - Panel of Neighbors
Moderator - Don Fraker
Panelists: Bill Bosse, North Dakota
Carl Johnson, Montana
Peter Meike, Wyoming
Orlon Eidon, South Dakota
9:30 A. M. - Coffee Break - Courtesy Richland National Bank
9:50 A. M. - President's Report - Peter Jackson
Ladies Auxiliary Report - Mrs. Eugene Larsen
Secretary's Report - Wayne Gibson
Treasurer's Report - Wendell Martinell
State Soil Conservation Committee Report - William F. D'Ewart
10:45 A. M. - Business Session - Peter V. Jackson, Presiding
12:30 P. M. - Luncheon - Moose Hall
Master of Ceremonies - Bill Kesler
Invocation - Rev. Ed Cunningham, People's Congregational Church
Address - Kenneth Grant, Soil Conservation Service
Drawing for Door Prizes
Adjournment
2:00 P. M. - Executive Meeting
2:00 P. M. - Tour by Bus to Holly Sugar Factory and Agricultural Research Center

MLSWCD CONVENTION SPEAKERS

GEORGE DARROW

State Representative
Professional Geologist and
Resource Consultant
Billings, Montana
Keynote Address: "CONSERVATION
CHANGING FRONTIERS"

DR. E. R. HEHN

Head, Plant & Soil Science Dept.
Montana State University, Bozeman
Topic: "ZONING IN MONTANA AND THE
DISTRICT'S RESPONSIBILITY"

MONS TEIGEN

Commissioner of State Lands &
Investments, Helena
Topic: "CONSERVATION ON STATE LANDS"

GARETH MOON

State Forester, Missoula
Topic: "STATE FORESTS &
SOIL DISTRICTS"

SAM STUDEBAKER

NACD President
Tipp City, Ohio
BANQUET SPEAKER

KENNETH E. GRANT

Administrator
Soil Conservation Service
Washington, D. C.
Luncheon Speaker: "UNITY IN ACTION"

"UNIFIED ACTION BY FEDERAL AGENCIES"

PANEL SPEAKERS

AVE LINFORD

State Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service
Bozeman, Montana

MIKE DRAŽICH

Project Manager
Bureau of Reclamation
Great Falls, Montana

HAROLD TYSK

State Director
Bureau of Land Management
Billings, Montana

ANSEN BAKER

Superintendent
Fort Peck Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Poplar, Montana

KENNETH A. KEENEY

Chief, Information & Education
U. S. Forest Service
Missoula, Montana

WILLIAM H. McKENZIE III

Corps of Engineers
Omaha, Nebraska
(No Picture)

"District Doings"

DANIELS COUNTY SWCD - Plans for the Fall tour were discussed. All teachers in the County will be asked. Personal contact will be made by the SWCD members to the schools.

Jack Sprague reported that he started 11 Boy Scouts on their Conservation Merit Badge.

PHILLIPS SWCD - The Public Land Use Commission Committee spent sometime in Phillips County analyzing the impact of public lands in this area.

POWDER RIVER SWCD - Proposed legislation for Montana Weed Control Association was reviewed by Carl Smith. Copies were given to everyone.

BIG SANDY SWCD - Grass seed for roadside seeding was discussed and noted that Art Roth has plenty of Crested Wheatgrass that he will donate to the District for roadside seeding. Milan Pavlovick offered to donate sacks for the seed to be stored in and this will be done as soon as possible.

CARBON SWCD - The District's tour of the Pryor Mountains, July 18, was discussed. In the opinion of the Supervisors, there are too many horses in the area and there is serious overgrazing and soil erosion. The number of horses must be reduced to the carrying capacity of the range. Bill Skorupa will draft a letter to the BLM giving the District's viewpoint.

Report was given on the ditch measuring that was done by the U. S. Geological Survey on the various ditches around the county. This data will be put together and copies sent to each of the ditch companies involved. Water losses ranged from 14% to 52% and averaged 30%.

BITTERROOT SWCD - There was a general disdussion in regard to the zoning and planning that needed to be done in Ravalli County for future development. Many houses are being built in areas that will be flooded. natural resources are not being used to their maximum potential. Someone will have to accept the responsibilities of developing this plan. It was felt that the Soil and Water Conservation District were probably in the best position of anyone in the county to start this program. It will not be easy. There will be many problems involved, but it is something that needs to be done. Clarence Popham moved that the Soil and Water Conservation District sponsor a plan for the orderly development of resources including county-wide zoning and planning which would include the following considerations: 1) Water pollution; 2) Recreation development; 3) Air pollution; 4) Transportation system; 5) Zoning of areas for residential, industrial and agricultural usea; 6) Natural beauty preservation. Edgar Wetzsteon seconded the motion; the motion carried. Jack Iman moved that this be made into a proposal and submitted to RC&D. Edgar Wetzsteon seconded the motion; this motion carried.

MADISON SWCD - Jackson introduced Dick McEldry, District Manager for the BLM at Dillon, who spoke on BLM plans and activities in this area. Most of the Bureau's work has been on recreation and will probably continue that way. At the present time, plans are to build a new road into the Ruby Creek campground.

McEldry also discussed public land law revisions and proposed plans for retention and disposition of public lands in this area as well as Sections 3 and 15 leases under the Taylor Grazing Act and fire protection and sagebrush spraying on public lands.

BOX ELDER SWCD - There was considerable discussion on the need for weed control in Carter County. It is felt that the only way to get adequate control of weeds in the soils district is to create some type of a weed control district, A motion was made and carried that the supervisors were in favor of the county adopting a regulation for taxing real estate owners an undetermined mill levy (this to be determined by the county commissioners) for the control of noxious weeds in Carter County. This mill levy is to be used to assist those who are not financially able to control weeds on their own lands. The secretary is to contact the county attorney to determine if this would be possible and how it should be handled if such a regulation is adopted in the county.

~ ~ AREA MEETING HIGHLIGHTS ~ ~

Representative George Darrow of Billings addressing the Area 4 Supervisors. Legislative Chairman Carl Johnson seems pleased.

Rep. Jim Murphy of Kalispell addressing the Western Water Association on Montana's Water.

Bob McClelland, Denver, NACD Program Advisor spoke at three area meetings. He complimented Montana supervisors for their progress in making SWCD's effective units for total resource development.

Legislators and Candidates Larry O'Connor, Robert Cotton, Norman Bailey, Ed Smith, Mark Etchert, G.C. Veda, Buell Hayward, and Art Lund with Secretary Inez Joycox and Pres. Pete Jackson.

The MASWCD area meetings held at Kalispell, Great Falls, Three Forks, Billings, Glasgow, and Baker September 30-October 5 were quite well attended. Legislators and candidates were represented at all meetings. Legislative Chairman Carl Johnson and President Pete Jackson presented the association proposals for amending the SWCDlaw to provide district supervisors with permissive authority to set up project areas for any combination of natural resource development, and which would include powers of taxation, eminent domain, and issuance of revenue bonds, within the limits of the act. These area meetings have set the stage for the annual meeting which will be held in Sidney Oct. 30 - Nov. 1, at which various resolutions will be acted on and officers of the association elected.

Water Resources Board Holds Hearing on State Water Plan

The Montana Water Resources Board held its first hearing on proposed Comprehensive Water and Related Land Resources Plan for the State of Montana, October 14 in Helena. Members of the staff presented the framework for the plan which will be developed in four phases:

1) Inventory
2) Water requirements and projection
3) Recommended developments for 1980, 2000, and 2020
4) Implementation

Objectives of the plan is to set out a progressive program for the conservation, development, and utilization of the State's water resources, propose the most effective means by which these resources may be applied for the benefit of the people, with due consideration of alternative uses and combinations of uses.

"Dates to Remember"

International Mountain Section American Society of Range Management O'Hare Manor, Great Falls	Nov. 8, 9
Montana Water Development Association Annual Meeting Jorgenson's Holiday Inn Helena	Nov. 8, 9
Montana Weed District Association - Lewistown	Nov. 7, 8
Upper Missouri Water Users Association Northern Hotel, Billings	Dec. 4, 5
State Rural Areas Development Committee Annual Meeting Baxter Hotel, Bozeman	Dec. 4, 5

WHEN TWO PEOPLE MEET AND EXCHANGE A DOLLAR, EACH STILL HAS A DOLLAR, BUT WHEN TWO PEOPLE MEET AND EXCHANGE AN IDEA, EACH IS THE RICHER BY TWO IDEAS. ATTEND YOUR ASSOCIATION MEETING IN SIDNEY AND BE ENRICHED BY AN EXCHANGE OF IDEAS.

Non Profit Org.
U.S.Postage PD.
Permit No.171
Butte, Montana

Montana Association of Soil and
Water Conservation Districts
(Return postage guaranteed)

Here's your copy of:

S3t

Treasure Acres

O. M. Ueland, Editor, School of Mines, Butte, Montana

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 1968

Carl Johnson President Sez

Governor-Elect Forrest Anderson

Perhaps as my first article for Treasure Acres, as President of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, I should start by thanking you for your vote of confidence in electing me to this very important office. I trust that I may fulfill the duties of it as efficiently as has been done in the past.

A Soil and Water Conservation District is not a single purpose district. It is a legal subdivision of state government responsible for leadership in the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources. To fulfill this role, a Soil and Water Conservation District works with local agencies, citizen's groups, and individuals to correct existing soil and water problems, to prevent new ones, and to develop the communities' natural resources to their proper and full

(Continued Page 2)

"Conservation of Montana's water resources is a must - but before this can be accomplished, various groups fighting for use of water on their own terms must forget their differences and forge common, interrelated goals to justify the retention of waters now rapidly slipping from our grasp to downstream states.

We must remember that we cannot perfectly impose today's values on the future.

Stronger efforts must be made to find new uses for water resources, to find methods for stretching and properly allocating present supplies.

It is also no secret that federal laws regarding so-called "navigable" bodies of water need revision. The State of Montana

(Continued Page 2)

est use. To further emphasize the importance of the job that districts have to do I would like to quote from NACD's Tuesday letter of December 10, 1968: "As District officials, we stand on the threshold of a new conservation and agricultural era, so I ask the question - Who, better than the Districts thru their supervisors, has an understanding of this vital balance of nature and the biological processes we speak of? Who, better than the Districts, can mobilize all forces in the upstream watersheds to meet the needs of pollution abatement? Who, better than the Districts, understands the relationships of soil, water, and health to the natural biological chemical reactions which are constantly at work? And again I ask, who, better than the Districts, can meet the challenges and provide the necessary leadership for water pollution abatement in the small watersheds?"

The above words were spoken by Dr. Daniel Hale of West Virginia at the annual meeting of the South Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Bearing the aforementioned statements in mind, I pledge to districts the untiring efforts of your officers, executive committee, board of directors, committee chairmen, and the Ladies Auxiliary in order that we might achieve the ultimate goal.

I would like to use the rest of this article as a means to inform districts of the progress the Association is making on resolutions adopted at Sidney. The Executive Committee has met three times since our convention and wish to report that the bill amending our present law will be printed in its final form December 19. Other resolutions have been by-passed in order that we may concentrate on legislation.

Several Districts have reported on their meetings with their state legislators and have had favorable comments concerning the proposed amendments. It is my hope that all supervisors will keep in touch with local legislators and continue to solicit their support.

May I take this opportunity to wish each and all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

CARL

must maintain its rights to present and future use of all its waters.

We must come to an agreement that conservation is an elastic term - that proper balance between actual use of resources and setting it aside for its later use must be achieved."

Governor-Elect Forrest Anderson will succeed Tim Babcock as Governor of Montana in January, 1969. The State Soil Conservation Committee and Soil and Water Conservation Districts pledge their cooperation and wishes for a successful administration.

ART CHRISTENSEN, CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC LANDS & WATER RESOURCES COMM.

WATER CODE

The consideration of a new water code will probably be one of the hottest issues in our next Legislature.

The Montana Legislative Council, along with the House Interim Committee on Water Law, has worked long and hard in drawing up a proposed administrative water code. This act would place the regulation and administration of water and water rights under the jurisdiction of the Montana Water Resources Board.

Proponents of this legislation contend that present laws are cumbersome and not adequate if Montana is to make full beneficial use of its water. At present District courts have jurisdiction of that

PETE JACKSON, LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN

SWCD LAW AMENDMENTS

Supervisors, you recently received a packet of legislative material. Included was a copy of the Soil and Water Conservation District Law. This law can be compared to a road map. Just as a road map helps to guide you to your destination, the District Law will guide you in your efforts to achieve your District's objectives.

The men who wrote the original law had great wisdom and foresight. They clearly outlined the duties and responsibilities of Supervisors.

You all want to be top-notch Supervisors and operate an outstanding District. How long has it been since you read the law to refresh your memory on your duties and responsibilities? If it has been several months or years, then I urge you to read the law now or soon.

You will be meeting with your legislators to explain proposed changes in the District law. These changes are for the purpose of giving you additional tools to accomplish the purposes set forth in the law. Your Representatives and Senators are important and busy men. Study your District law and the proposed changes so you will be well informed to discuss the importance of these changes to the continued development and conservation of Montana's soil and water resources.

Water Code Article by Art Christensen, Continued

of those streams that have decreed water rights. Many rights are based on "use" or filings only; and unless a law suit is tried, the court has no jurisdiction.

In defense of our present system, it must be said that most people are satisfied. Our District Judges are well versed in water law and have done a good job of administering water rights on adjudicated streams. Administrative costs have been held to a minimum. If water use is to continue as it has in the past, there seems little need for a change.

On the other hand, if Montana hopes to hold its water for beneficial use in our State, we will have to move decisively. It seems only logical that a single specialized agency, administered by well-trained personnel could be handle the administration of our water codes. District Judges should not be overburdened with the administrative aspects of water law.

The proposed legislation would recognize existing water rights and would provide for judicial review for any person who feels he has been adversely effected by administrative decisions.

The new legislation would also define beneficial use to include fish, wildlife, and recreation.

On the surface this provision seems only fair, but in practice what will happen on a fluctuating stream, when there isn't enough water for both fish and irrigation?

Under the proposed act the director may, in an effort to prevent waste or misuse, modify some water rights. This provision would surely be for the general good, but an irrigator with a very old recorded right for more water than he can properly use, would be hard to convince that he should surrender part of his recorded rights.

The Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts has taken no official position on this issue. We recognize that Montana Water Law must be updated if we are to fully develop our water resources. Many of our members may disagree with some provisions of the proposed act, but in general, it is a sound approach, even if it would take a "Super King Solomon" to administer it to everyone's satisfaction.

EDUCATION -- THE KEY TO CONSERVATION

by

Wilson F. Clark

MRS. LESLIE CRISWELL

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are unique organizations. Their importance to the agricultural growth of Montana is well proven. But their role in the future is even more important.

District Supervisors can and should be the leaders in helping all Montanans -- urban as well as rural -- understand their absolute dependence on the soil and water base of the State. As urban representatives are elected to Boards of Supervisors, and as particularly water resource development progresses, the walls of misunderstanding and ignorance existing between city and farm people can be breached.

Too many city people don't recognize the land and water of the State as the foundation of all else in the economy. Too many take for granted that water for every use will always be plentiful, without thought on their part. Too many see our fertile irrigated valleys as ideal locations for super highways, not recognizing the land base lost to agriculture and not understanding the irreversible nature of highway construction. And too many city people do not appreciate that urban sprawl on good farm land is a self-destructive and unwise type of city growth.

These are a few of the problems for which Supervisors need to undertake educational programs. Their knowledge and the knowledge of the Service technicians needs to be tapped to solve many urban problems, and to help urban people put land and resources in better perspective.

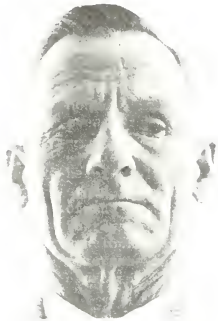
Supervisors are apt to "sell themselves short," feel inadequate for telling the story and selling the ideas, and think that their business is just tending to District management. But their opportunities go far beyond this, and Supervisors have much to offer. That this is true -- that they have much to offer -- is shown by a review of reports of educational and service programs of Districts throughout the United States, as reported in the small, but meaty magazine, Soil Conservation.

Conservation has been defined as the making of intelligent choices among the competitive uses of resources. Far too often the choices that are made are based on short-term gains, or are of a nature that creates further problems, or are totally irreversible. We see cases of these sorts of choices everywhere. But the number of poor or unintelligent choices can be reduced if people understand that choices exist, and the relative merits of each. Districts through sound educational and public relations programs, can be (and many have been) major forces for helping the public make the intelligent choices. But they can't do it by hiding their lights under bushels.

Has your District made a real commitment to Education? Does it see its important role in building public understanding? Has it tried to tap local resources and people? What specific programs has it carried out? Is there a feeling on your Board that you do have something of great value that urban people need to know about -- or do you think of yourselves as "just farmers and ranchers?"

* * * * * * * * * * *

Editor's Note: At the annual MASWCD Meeting in Sidney, the Women's Auxiliary agreed to supply one page of each issue of Treasure Acres. The topic will be Conservation Education, in its broadest sense. Mrs. Myrtle Criswell of Hysham is Chairman of this project. She is arranging for a "guest editor" of this page for each issue. In addition, Districts having various successful education or public relations programs should contact Mrs. Criswell, so that other Districts can benefit by an exchange of information.



LESLIE CRISWELL, CHAIRMAN
RECREATION, WILDLIFE, & NATURAL BEAUTY

The outlook is bright for substantial economic returns from the development of rural recreation for an expanding population. Private campgrounds and picnic areas are excellent places for city people to enjoy extended vacations at a reasonable expense. Although private camps charge fees exceeding those of public parks and campgrounds, family campers prefer, and will pay a premium to camp in, private grounds.

The three most common types of privately owned campgrounds are: transient camps, recreation or vacation camps, and organized group camps. The demand has never been greater. Campgrounds near areas for sports, such as hunting, fishing, golfing, water sports, horseback riding, and nature trails have a big appeal to city people seeking a quiet, relaxing vacation or weekend. Recreation enthusiasts have accepted the growing custom of being charged fees for camping space where they may pitch their tents or set their campers or trailers.

As with all private recreation facilities, health and sanitation requirements, liability protection, and safety are of utmost importance, as well as full and complete records of family activities.

☆ ☆ ☆

Duplexity?

If more than one mouse is mice, it seems reasonable that more than one spouse would be spice.

—THE MILTON (CANADA) CANADIAN CHAMPION

R. C. SETTERSTROM, CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Newsletters are an effective way to communicate. When you go over to your neighbor to borrow something or check on a lost animail or request help, do you practice how you are going to ask it? Heck no, you go over and say it as it comes to your mind, courteous, but you ain't worried about your grammar.

Very effective newsletters are those where you tell your story just as you would talk to your neighbor or at one of your local farm meetings.

Your State Association gives prizes each year for the best newsletters. Here are the 1968 winners: Fergus County Soil and Water Conservation District, Granite Soil and Water Conservation District, and Richland County Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Farm and Industrial Equipment Institute will be awarding $3,225.00 for the best newsletters in a national contest.

Will Rogers said, "We are not ignorant except on different subjects." Newsletters are an effective way to smarten up people who are ignorant about the need for soil and water conservation.

Witchcraft?

Wife: a person who can look in the top drawer and find the socks that aren't there.

—THE FOREST LAKE (MINN.) TIMES

C. W. BRINCK

WATER POLLUTION FROM AGRICULTURAL WASTES

by
Claiborne W. Brinck
Director, Division of Environmental Sanitation

For the last several years there has been a vigorous program carried out by the Montana Water Pollution Control Council designed to reduce the amount of wastes from human activities that enter Montana streams. Industries and municipalities have been the principle target, but now that all municipalities that are sewered have some type of waste treatment and industries are taking care of most of their wastes, yet there is still some pollution entering our streams and it is time that we took a look at this -- that from agricultural activities. It is recognized that many think that the little bit of waste that they contribute from their farming or ranching or activity is of little account, but do not forget that "little bits" can add up to real problems.

"We don't return anything to the streams" is a common statement, but if there are any barnyard drains or if the high water washes through the barnyard, this may be a source of water pollution. If you permit excess irrigation water to flow back to the streams from the fields, this creates water pollution problems, as does the drain lines that are maintaining a lower water table in some areas.

To control stream pollution from agricultural activities requires both proper planning and good management. When it is recognized that the wastes from one cow are equivalent to that of sixteen humans or a thousand cows is the same as the wastes from 16,000 humans, it is necessary to do all in our power to keep this waste out of the streams and out of the ground water.

We can't all live at the headwaters and we have to think of the people downstream. Remember soil and water conservation is water pollution control. The return irrigation water can be quite warm and change the quality of the water in the stream. There have also been cases where so much water has been removed for irrigation that the small stream remaining becomes very warm and can produce a habitat where fish cannot exist.

Proper planning will make it easier to properly manage our soils, which in turn means a better return for the dollar spent and a greater length of life for the field.

Anything that can be done to save our soil and our waters is good for all of us. It is hoped that all can be cognizant of this fact as we go about our activities.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

In a recent letter from the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Richard Nixon's views on resources were presented. Here are a few of his ideas on Natural and Human Resources: "Among those that should escape the budget knife are appropriations for conservation and education, for the preservation of natural and for the development of human resources. These are the growth stocks of America, which will net us the greatest long term gains."

Officers and Directors of Montana SWCD Carl Johnson, Livingston at far right in Picture was elected President and succeeds Pete Jackson, Harrison.

GOODYEAR AWARD

Shown in picture are Kenneth Torgeson, Leo Hackaby and Lawrence Brown, Supervisor of the Richland SWCD, who won the Goodyear award for 1967.

LADIES AUXILIARY

New Officers are : Mrs. Dean Hanson, Gildford, President; Mrs. Lawrence Brown, Savage, Vice-President; Mrs. Harry Swank, Secretary-Treas. Poplar

STATE CONVENTION OF MASCD

Over 200 SWCD Supervisors, wives and guests attended the three day convention. of the Montana Association of Soil and Water Conservation held in Sydney, Oct. 30, Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, 1968.

Sam Studebaker, National Association of Conservation Districts, was the Banquet Speaker. Kenneth Grant, SCS Administration Designate, was luncheon speaker and George Darrow, Montana Legislator, was keynote speaker. Don Fraker, NACD Director from Wyoming, North and South Dakota, a guest in attendance. It was an excellent meeting of much work with far reaching significance. The standing committee worked well together and accomplished a great deal. The Richland SWCD were excellent hosts and provided good entertainment.

CITIES AND TOWNS VOTE INTO SWCDs

Eight cities and towns voted favorably in referendums held in conjunction with the general election in November to become part of a soil and water conservation district. They were:

Lewistown to Fergus	1594-516
Miles City to North Custer	1603-285
Hardin to Big Horn	745-150
Three Forks to Gallatin Valley	317-16
Phillipsburg to Granite	247-46
Jordan to Garfield	179-3
Sheridan to Ruby Valley	127-65
Twin Bridges to Ruby Valley	97-4

The towns of Eureka, Chester, Sidney, Fairview, Baker, and Conrad have petitions submitted to the State Soil Conservation Committee. Hearings are being arranged and referendums probably will be held in conjunction with the municipal elections in the spring.

REPORTS

The bi-annual report of theState Soil Conservation Committee has been presented to the Governorand mailed to all legislators and government agencies concerned with conservation. The report gives a good view of resource developments in soil and water conservation districts. Conservation is a big business in Montana. Over $25,000,000 was paid out for materials and work in 1967 and 1968 for a large variety of practices.

Judith Basin SWCD--A Range Management school has been set up starting in January and running for 5 weeks consisting of 1 meeting a week.

Cascade County SWCD--Ted Fosse presented a letter to each supervisor thanking them for the special SWCD Newsletter honoring his years of service presented at the retirement party November 30th.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Montana Association of Soil and
Water Conservation Districts
(Return postage guaranteed)

Non-Profit Org.
U.S.Postage PD.
Permit No.171
Butte, Montana

MONT STATE LIBRARY
930 E LYNDALE
HELENA MONT 59601